

## Korea Resources (Spring 2006)

### Publications:

**Asian Educational Media Service**, Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 230 International Studies Building, MC-483, 910 South Fifth Street, Champaign, IL 61820. <http://www.aems.uiuc.edu>. The web site provides resources for K-12 teachers. Four times a year the service publishes “News and Reviews.” It includes excellent film reviews and helps educators locate audio-visual resources for teaching and learning about China, Japan, Korea, and Southeast Asia. E-mail: [aems@uiuc.edu](mailto:aems@uiuc.edu)

**Education About Asia**. Three issues per year. “This innovative magazine is a resource for teachers at all educational levels who wish to bring information on Asia to their classrooms. It offers highly readable feature articles; essays on educational programs and techniques; and reviews of books, films, videos, CD-Roms, web sites and software.” \$25.00 per year for non-members and \$15.00 per year for members of the Association for Asian Studies. Association for Asian Studies, 1021 East Huron Street, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104. E-mail: [bookorder@aasianst.org](mailto:bookorder@aasianst.org). Website: <http://www.aasianst.org> Go to Google and enter “Education About Asia.” When you find this, go to “Articles” and there will be outstanding information on Asia and lessons. Back issues and articles will be located under “Table of Contents.”

**Teaching More About KOREA, Lessons for Students in Grades K-12**. This book of lesson plans was developed by the 1995 Korea Society fellows. It can be purchased for a \$10.00 check payable to the Korea Society. The Korea Society, 950 Third Avenue, 8th Floor, New, NY 10022. E-mail: [korea.ny@koreasociety.org](mailto:korea.ny@koreasociety.org) or check the web site: [www.koreasociety.org](http://www.koreasociety.org)

**Korea: Lessons for Elementary School**, created by the Korea Society. It includes two particularly helpful and creative lessons: “Let’s go to Korea,” and “Storytelling in Korea.” Available from the Korea Society for \$10.00.

**“Introducing Korea through Art and Storytelling”**. This curriculum book will be available from the Korea Society in the fall of 2006.

**Korea: Lessons for High School Courses**, created by the Korea Society, received the Buchanan Award in 2000. It includes exceptional lessons on any number of topics: national treasures, the miracle on the Han, the Japanese occupation, the Korean War, South Koreans in the War in Vietnam, and women. The Korean War lessons could be included in United States history classes. Available for \$12.00 from the Korea Society.

**Korean Voices: Growing Up During a Time of Crisis**, created by the Korea Society for middle school students. Includes nineteen lessons and questions for Sook Nyul Choi’s *Year of Impossible Goodbyes* and Richard Kim’s *Lost Names*. Cost: \$10.00.

***KoreAm Journal.*** This journal is published monthly nationwide to provide a forum for English-speaking Korean Americans. It includes feature stories, poetry, fiction, artwork, and photographs. This journal is an essential and engaging resource for young Korean Americans. E-mail: [koream@koreamjournal.com](mailto:koream@koreamjournal.com) \$28.00 per year. *KoreAm Journal*, 17813 South Main Street #112, Gardena, CA. 90248 (310) 769-4913.

***Koreana: Korean Art and Culture.*** A fascinating quarterly journal published by the Korean Foundation. Beautiful photographs. Includes articles on Korea past and present. Provides on-line abstracts of articles and accompanying photographs at <http://www.kf.or.kr/koreafocus>. For subscriptions write The Korea Foundation, C.P.O. Box 2147, Seoul, Korea. Free copies may be obtained from the Korean Cultural Center in Los Angeles.

***The Korea Society Quarterly.*** This publication provides information about Korea Society programs and contemporary Korea. It is available to all members of the Korea Society, 950 Third Avenue, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10022. Membership is \$25.00. [www.koreasociety.org](http://www.koreasociety.org)

### **Organizations:**

**Foundation for Korean Language and Culture** (formerly the Foundation for SAT II Korean), 680 Wilshire Place, Suite 416, Los Angeles, CA 90005, (213) 380-5718. The Foundation is a non-profit organization whose main objective is to promote Korean language and culture throughout the United States. It was founded in 1994 in response to the Korean American community's desire to include Korean as a foreign language option on the Scholastic Aptitude Test II (SAT II). The Korean SAT was offered for the first time in 1997 and by November 2004 approximately 4,000 took the test. The Foundation organizes annual international conferences on Korean studies, offers scholarships to middle and high school students enrolled in Korean language classes, provides scholarship for teachers enrolled in Korean language single subject teaching credential programs, provides an intensive summer training program for Korean language teachers in middle and high schools, promotes the opening and expansion of Korean language classes in middle and high schools, and provides financial support for Korean language textbook projects and SAT II Korean practice tests. The Foundation supports a program that includes approximately thirty educators (high school administrators and district superintendents) from various parts of the United States to travel to Korea during the summer to learn about Korea, its people and language.

**Korean Consulate General**, 3243 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA. 90010, (213) 385-9300. The Consulate has free materials for teachers: books, periodicals, and videos. E-mail: [lac@anet.net](mailto:lac@anet.net)

**Korean Cultural Center**, 5505 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA. 90036, (323) 936-7141. Excellent website: <http://www.kccla.org>. Art museum, library of materials on Korea (in English and Korean), and a film/video loan center. The library has an impressive collection of 4,000 books in English on Korea and hundreds of VHS tapes

(and some DVDs) on all aspects of Korean history and culture for individual or classroom use. The center also has a series of free classes and workshops that introduce guests to the music, dance, folk art, and language of the Korean people. A student tour of the museum can be arranged. If you wish to be on the mailing list, please notify the Korean Cultural Center.

**Korean Cultural Service of New York**, 460 Park Avenue, 6<sup>th</sup> floor, New York, NY 10022, (212) 759-9550, FAX (212) 688-8640, Internet: <http://www.koreanculture.org>  
The service provides information on Korea and Korea-U.S. relations and guidance to students who wish to participate in exchange programs. The service has an extensive library of more than 10,000 books, periodicals, CD-ROMs and videotapes.

**Korean Cultural Service of Washington, D.C.**, 2370 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20008, (202) 797-6343, FAX (202) 387-0413, E-mail: [korinfo@koreaemb.org](mailto:korinfo@koreaemb.org). Internet: <http://www.koreaemb.org>. The service offers a variety of media resources.

**Korea Society**, 950 Third Avenue, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10022, (212) 759-7525, FAX (212) 759-7530, E-mail: [korea.ny@koreasociety.org](mailto:korea.ny@koreasociety.org) Internet: <http://www.koreasociety.org>. The Korea Society is a private, nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated solely to the promotion of greater awareness, understanding and cooperation between the people of the United States and Korea. In pursuit of its mission, the society arranges programs that facilitate discussion, exchanges and research on topics of vital interest to both countries in the areas of public policy, business, education, intercultural relations and the arts. **The Korea Society, in cooperation with the Korea Foundation, offers fellowships for social studies and language-arts educators, including K-12 classroom teachers and professors or instructors in schools of education.** The Korea Society also nominates five American delegates for the UNESCO youth camp each summer and pays camp participation fees. The Korea Society supports Project Bridge, a year long program of intercultural youth leadership activities for Los Angeles and New York high school students. The program includes a two-week education study tour of Korea every April.

## **Opportunities for Students:**

### **Korean Camps**

There are over twenty summer camps for Korean adoptee children throughout the United States. The camps offer opportunities for children to learn about their heritage and issues related to adoption. Young people between the ages of four and eighteen participate in such activities as learning the language, dance, drama, Taekwondo, cooking and art. Some camps offer family retreats. At this time there is no national association. Midwestern camps: Hands Around the World (Illinois) (847) 367-7862, Iowans for International Adoption (641) 423-4224, Korean Culture Camp (Michigan) (810) 229-4111 and Family for International Children Heritage Camp (Michigan) (616) 532-2937.

**Korean National Commission for UNESCO**, Youth Unit, P.O. Box Central 64, Seoul, Korea. E-mail: [iyc@unesco.or.kr](mailto:iyc@unesco.or.kr). Young adults between the ages of 18-27 are eligible to participate in the International Youth Camp (IYC), which is an annual project of the Korean National Commission for UNESCO. "Over the years, IYC has enriched the lives of the nearly 3,100 young people worldwide who have been participants in the program. Through involvement in an interesting and challenging program of workshops, tours, projects and discussions on international issues, IYC participants have enjoyed opportunities for self-development, physical conditioning and intellectual stimulation. Living and working together, the participants have gained a better understanding of themselves, each other and the world around them."

### **Youth for Understanding**

The Youth for Understanding (YFU) is a non-profit educational organization, which offers opportunities for young people around the world to spend a summer, semester or year with a host family in another culture. Website: <http://www.yfu.org/>  
The YFU program for Korea is a six week program that includes a home stay, school classes several days a week to learn language skills and make new friends and travel to historic sites and museums. "The highlight of your stay in South Korea will be the immersion in a culture and way of life both ancient and beautiful." The location of the information on the Korea program:  
<http://www.youthforunderstanding.or/ao/countries/korea.htm>

### **Videos/CD/DVDs/Audio-tapes**

**Chongdong Theater CD.** The CD includes samulnori, pansori, dance and drumming. The cost is \$17.00 for the video and \$8.00 for postage (Total \$25.00). The theater does not accept credit cards or checks, but accepts money orders. The money order should be payable to the Chongdong Theater. The address: Chongdong Theater, 8-11 Jeong-dong, Jung-gu, Seoul, 100-120, Korea/Telephone 82-2-751-1541~4. Include the following with your money order: Shinhan Bank, 120, 2-TAEPYUNG-RO, CHUNG-GU, SEOUL, KOREA, Routing # is SHBKKRSE and the Account number is 300-05-014618. The CD is excellent and worth the effort involved to purchase.

***Ch'unhyang.*** Im Kwon-Taek's film based on one of Korea's most famous folk tales. Beautiful cinematography, traditional costumes, and the hauntingly beautiful sounds of p'ansori. Released in 2001. English subtitles. Available through Amazon.com and criticschoicevideo.com

***Great Tales in Asian Art.*** (Kultur International Films) The video was filmed on location and includes four beloved stories of India, Indonesia, Korea and Japan are told through the masterpieces of visual art. *The Korean Masked Dance Drama* is a fifteen-minute segment. E-mail orders: [orders@cheng-tsui.com](mailto:orders@cheng-tsui.com). Website: [www.cheng-tsue.com](http://www.cheng-tsue.com). Approximate cost is \$15.00.

***Korean Culture, the First Twenty Years: 1980-1999 Issues.*** Published by the Korean Cultural Center of the Korean Consulate General in Los Angeles, California, 2001. CD-

ROM (for PCs only). Order with on-line form at: <http://www.kccla.org/html/magazine.asp>. or write the Korean Cultural Center, 5505 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90036. Outstanding resource for teachers and students. The contents are diverse and impressive, and fields such as art, architecture, religion, poetry, religion, history and film are well represented. The CD includes twenty years of articles, many of which were written by leading scholars.

***Nuclear Nightmare: Understanding North Korea.*** This is an exceptional documentary that provides an overview of Korean history from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century to the Clinton and Bush administrations. It provides coverage of the hardships of life in North Korea, the leadership of Kim Jong Il, attitudes of North and South Koreans towards the United States and the challenges of the Bush administration. This DVD is available through the Discovery Store at [www.discoverystore.com](http://www.discoverystore.com). The item may be located by its product number: 692293. The price is \$21.95. As of February 2005, it was currently in stock.

***P'yongyang Diaries.*** Video. A remarkable film simply for the fact of being made. It provides a much needed counterbalance to the available print and film resources on Korea which are almost entirely devoted to South Korea and usually ignore the one third of the Korean population who live North of the DMZ. 52 minutes. Distributed by First Run Icarus Films, 1998. Purchase price: \$390 and rental is \$75. Phone: 1-(800) 876-1710. Web site: <http://www.echony.com/~frif>

***South Korea: Struggle for Democracy***” Video. "Using news footage and interviews with government officials, dissidents, journalists, and average citizens, this program examines the country's ongoing struggle for democracy within the context of its turbulent history." 28 minutes and in color. \$89.95 From Films for the Humanities and Sciences. P.O. Box 2053, Princeton, NJ. 08543-2053.

***Sop'yonje.*** (117 minutes) Video. This is the first internationally recognized Korean film. I introduced my students to this film; the impact was stunning. *Sop'yonje* opened their world to the human experience of being Korean in the twentieth century. Each one of my students professed loved for the film. The story takes place during the 1950s and 1960s and introduces viewers to p'ansori, the traditional music of Korea. For a copy, send a blank video and money for postage to the Korean Cultural Service, The Embassy of the Republic of Korea, 2370 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20008.

***A State of Mind.*** (DVD) The film dramatically conveys how an authoritarian regime has shaped the minds of its people. The film provides images of Pyongyang and the way of life of the people who reside there. Interviews reveal that North Koreans are very interested in our war in Iraq and convinced that the United States is an imperialist threat to their way of life and that our economic sanctions are the source of their hardships. The film focuses on two delightful teenage girls who are selected to train for the Mass Games and whose lives revolve around a daily routine to prepare for the Games in hopes that the Dear Leader will be there to see them perform and know that they are good communists. The shots of the actual Mass Games where 100,000 people participate in an elaborately choreographed exhibition of dazzling colorful, perfectly synchronized

routines will stay in your mind forever. Highly recommended for junior and senior high students. A DVD/ 94 minutes. Amazon.com ( \$29.95).

**“You Were My Inspiration”** This segment from a February 4, 2003 Oprah Show includes a brief interview of Helie Lee, her search for her heritage and film segments from the dramatic rescue of her North Korean relatives. This would be an excellent video to show to students from grades 5-12, particularly United States history and cultural studies classes. Helie Lee appears in the second segment of the program that originally aired on February 4, 2003. The video purchase price is \$29.95. For further information, see <http://tapesandtranscripts.oprah.com>. Go to 2003, then February 4, 2003. Purchase price is \$29.95.

**Tales of Korea I and II** (audio tapes, \$5.00 each) from the Korea Society. These tapes are suitable for elementary, middle school and secondary students. Cathy Spagnoli’s captivating voice and her readings of Korean folk tales will charm all audiences. An excellent teaching technique for understanding of Korean society and culture. While both tapes are highly recommended, a teacher might begin with Tape #1 and “Green Frog.”

**“Arirang 1 & 2”** The documentary has two parts, “The Korean American Journey,” which covers Korean American history from 1903 to about 1960, and “the Korean American Dream,” which continues the story through the present. The first part details the story of the first Korean American immigrants who became laborers on Hawaiian sugar plantations. It also explains the role Koreans in America played in supporting the independence movement to liberate Korea from Japan. Part 2 of the documentary covers the WWII period and the impact of the Korean War and the immigration reforms of the 1960s on the growth of the Korean American community. A segment examines the Los Angeles riots of 1992 when many Korean businesses were burned and looted. The concluding segment looks at a community in transition and looks ahead with optimism. Parts 1 and 2 are both 60 minutes each. DVD total cost (for both Parts 1 and 2) is \$29.95 for a consumer and for an educational institution \$49.95.

A website ([www.arirangeducation.com](http://www.arirangeducation.com)) includes a remarkable collection of memorable images, sound and historical information to educate teachers and their students about the Korean American experience. A CD/DVD was released in 2005 that includes lesson plans, four short films and nine extended interviews with well-known Korean Americans. The cost is \$19.95 for an individual and \$39.95 for an educational institution. To order the DVD of the two hour documentary or the CD/DVD with interactive classroom lessons about the Korean American experience, go to the website: [www.arirangeducation.com](http://www.arirangeducation.com)

### **Reference Book/Text on Korea:**

***The Koreas: A Global Studies Handbook*** by Mary E. Connor

Published by ABC-CLIO, April 2002. Available for \$55.00. eBook \$65.00.

***The Koreas*** is part of a new global series on Asia that includes China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Nepal and Bangladesh, and Vietnam. The audience is secondary and undergraduate. Website: ABC-CLIO.com

### **Highly Recommended Resource:**

Chang, Edward and Jennette Diaz-Veizades. *Ethnic Peace in the American City: Building Community in Los Angeles and Beyond*. This book “documents the nature of contemporary interethnic relations in the United States by describing the dynamics of race in inner-city Los Angeles... The authors explore practical means by which ethnically fragmented neighborhoods can work together to begin to address their common concerns before tensions become explosive.” Paperback.

### **Recommended Literature:**

Choi, Sook Nyul. *The Year of Impossible Goodbyes*. Choi provides the reader with a very moving account of the experiences of individuals during Japanese occupation, their high hopes upon liberation in 1945, their fears as Russian troops took control of North Korea and their dangerous escape to American-controlled South Korea. “Here is the incredible story of one family’s love for each other and their determination to risk everything to find freedom.” Suitable from grades 6-12.

Fulton, Bruce and Youngmin Kwon. *Modern Korean Fiction: An Anthology*. Columbia University Press (2005). “In terms of its range and consistent quality, there is simply no other comparable collection. A combination of fresh, new translations of old classics and a judicious selection of more recent writing makes this long-awaited anthology a most welcome publication for anyone interested in twentieth century Korea.” Janet Poole, New York University. Recommended for a senior English class and college level students.

Kim, Richard. *Lost Names: Scenes from a Korean Childhood*. Accessible for junior high students, *Lost Names*, is an outstanding literary selection for high school students. Lee recounts his own childhood and the suffering and insults inflicted on his village during Japanese occupation of Korea. The writing is simple, but poetic. The story is very touching and one of the most well written and memorable books I have read in the past ten years. (High school and possibly middle school)

Lee, Helie. *In the Absence of Sun*. See review. (SocialStudies.com, Professional Development, Mary Connor, Asian Studies) High School

Lee, Helie. *Still Life with Rice*. See review. (SocialStudies.com, Professional Development, Mary Connor Asian Studies) High School

Nam, Vickie. Editor. *Yello-Oh Girls: Emerging Voices Explore Culture, Identity and Growing Up Asian American*. Quill Publishers (an imprint of Harper Collins publishers, 2001. An excellent collection of short essays written by Asian American girls. \$13.00. Suitable for junior and senior high school students.

Park, Linda Sue. *A Single Shard* (2001) A Newberry Award Winning Book. Grades 4-8. Park’s story is alive with fascinating information about life and art in ancient (12<sup>th</sup>

century) Korea. It is a tale of courage and devotion. A single shard from a celadon vase will change the life of a young boy and his master.

Park, Linda Sue. *When My Name was Keoko* (2002) Inspired by her own family's stories of living in South Korea during the Japanese occupation, Newbery Medal-winning author Linda Sue Park chronicles the compelling story of two siblings, 10 year old Sunhee and 13 year old Taeyul and their battle to maintain their identity and dignity during one of Korea's most difficult and turbulent times. Her account is carefully researched and will be captivating for children between the ages of 10 to 14.

Park, Linda Sue. *Bee-bim Bop!* (2005). This is a delightful storybook that will engage all children, but particularly well suited for K-3. It includes "playful verse with a bouncy beat," charming illustrations, humor and a recipe for a very popular Korean dish.

Potok, Chaim. *I am the Clay* (Korean War). An account written by a highly regarded author (*The Chosen*) and veteran of the Korean War. It is suitable for junior and senior high school

Robinson, Katy. *A Single Square Picture: A Korean Adoptee's Search for Her Roots*. The book "is a personal odyssey that ascends to the universal, a story that will resonate with anyone who has ever questioned their place in the world – and had the courage to find the answers."